

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, and 17-40 are presented for further examination. Claims 1, 2, and 4-10 have been amended. Claims 3 and 16 have been canceled. Claims 21-40 are new.

In the Office Action mailed June 27, 2006, the Examiner objected to claims 1-3 and 5-9 because of the use of acronyms. Applicant has spelled out the acronyms before each of their first appearances in each of the base claims.

Claims 10-12 were provisionally rejected under nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. Applicants' amendment to claim 10 overcomes this provisional rejection.

Claims 3, and 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. With respect to the claim 3, the Examiner stated that the rules were not specified and that "status of the request and priority information are not rules." In addition, there was no antecedent for "said code port CP," "said second data port DP," "said third FP port," and "said second code port CP," and "said FP port" in claims 5-8. The foregoing amendments to the claims overcome these rejections.

Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,693,570 ("Cernea"). Claims 10-15 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 6,330,185 ("Wong"). Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,889,303 ("Eckert"). Claim 1 was further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Cernea or Wong in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0154430 ("Allen"). Claims 17-20 were allowed and claims 2, 4, 9, and 16 were found to be allowable.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowability of claims 17-20 and the finding of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4, 9, and 16. Applicants respectfully disagree with the bases for the rejections over the references and request reconsideration and further examination of the claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 3. Inasmuch as claim 3 was not rejected over the art of record, it would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. Hence, claim 1 is allowable claim 3, rewritten into independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable. Moreover, dependent claims 2, and 4-9

are also allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 1 is allowable.\

Independent claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable dependent claim 16. Hence, independent claim 10 is now dependent claim 16 rewritten into independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10 is now allowable. In addition, dependent claims 11-15 are allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 10 is allowable.

New independent claim 21 is prior independent claim 1 written in combination with allowable dependent claim 2. Thus, independent claim 21 is allowable dependent claim 2 rewritten into independent format. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 21 is allowable by virtue of the allowability of dependent claim 2. In addition, dependent claims 22-26, all of which depend ultimately from claim 21, are allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 21 is allowable.

New independent claim 27 is independent claim 1 rewritten to be combination with allowable dependent claims 4 and 3. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 27 is allowable by virtue of the reasons for the allowability of dependent claims 4 and 3. In addition, dependent claims 28-33 are allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 27 is allowable.

Independent claim 34 is former claim 1 written in combination with allowable claim 9. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 34, which is now allowable claim 9 rewritten into independent format, is allowable. In addition, dependent claims 35-40, all of which depend ultimately from claim 34, are allowable for the features recited therein as well as for the reasons why claim 34 is allowable.

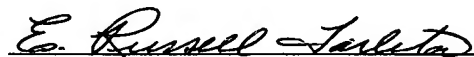
In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in this application are now in condition for allowance. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Application No. 10/768,743
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All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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